

Clean set of claims for Amendment B dated 23 September 2002

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Claim 18

A surgical needle assembly for endodontic procedures, said assembly comprising:

a needle having one end encapsulated and grippingly supported by a hub member and including a coextensive bore terminating at a distal end;

said needle further including a protruding hollow shaft portion of predetermined length;

an angle-adjustment sleeve surrounding a portion of said needle wherein said portion is intermediate said distal end and said one end; and wherein said angle-adjustment sleeve is movable concurrently with said needle from a first position to a predetermined second position to adjust the angle at which the needle extends;

the distal end of said needle including an arcuate longitudinal skived portion having an arcuate height of a predetermined proportional ratio relative to the diameter of said bore.